

REMARKS

Summary

Claims 1-3, 9-11, 17, 19, 20, 24, 26, 27 and 31 are pending. Claims 19, 20, and 24 were objected to, and Claims 19, 20, 24, 26, 27 and 31 were rejected; the specification was objected to. The Examiner indicated that Claims 1-3, 9-11 and 17 were allowed and that Claims 19, 20, 24, 26, 27 and 31 contained allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Applicants express appreciation to the Examiner for the prompt indication of allowable subject matter.

Amendments have been made to Claims 19, 20, 24, 26, 27, and 31 and to the specification. No new matter has been introduced. The Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments have placed the application in condition for allowance.

Objections

Specification

The Examiner has noted two informalities in the specification, on page 21 at lines 4-10 and at page 22 [sic, 23] at line 13. The Applicants express appreciation to the Examiner for calling these informalities to attention, and the specification has been amended to correct the first of these informalities; the Applicants respectfully submit that the second informality had been previously corrected in the preliminary amendment submitted on August 18, 2003. accordingly.

Claims

The Examiner has noted an informality in Claims 19, 20, and 24. The Applicants express appreciation to the Examiner for calling these informalities to attention, and the claims have been amended accordingly.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments overcome the objections.

Claim Rejections

35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 19, 20, 24, 26 27 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner states that that several phrases in the claims lack a clear antecedent basis. In particular, with respect to "the third magnetic layer" (rejections (i), (iii) and (v)), the phrase has been deleted; and, with respect to "the non magnetic interlayers", (rejections (ii), (iv), (vi), (vii), (viii) and (ix)) the plural case has been changed to the singular case.

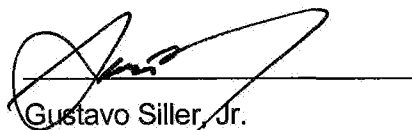
Conclusion

Claims 1-3, 9-11, 17, 19, 20, 24, 26, 27, and 31 are pending.

For at least the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gustavo Siller, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

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